



Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	138381
Inspection date	15 September 2005
Inspector	Victoria Vasiliadis

Type of inspection	Childcare
Type of care	Childminding

ABOUT THIS INSPECTION

The purpose of this inspection is to assure government, parents and the public of the quality of childcare and, if applicable, of nursery education. The inspection was carried out under Part XA Children Act 1989 as introduced by the Care Standards Act 2000 and, where nursery education is provided, under Schedule 26 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998.

This report details the main strengths and any areas for improvement identified during the inspection. The judgements included in the report are made in relation to the outcomes for children set out in the Children Act 2004; the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding; and, where nursery education is provided, the *Curriculum guidance for the foundation stage*.

The report includes information on any complaints about the childcare provision which Ofsted has received since the last inspection or registration or 1 April 2004 whichever is the later.

The key inspection judgements and what they mean

Outstanding: this aspect of the provision is of exceptionally high quality

Good: this aspect of the provision is strong

Satisfactory: this aspect of the provision is sound

Inadequate: this aspect of the provision is not good enough

For more information about early years inspections, please see the booklet *Are you ready for your inspection?* which is available from Ofsted's website: www.ofsted.gov.uk.

THE QUALITY AND STANDARDS OF THE CARE

On the basis of the evidence collected on this inspection:

The quality and standards of the care are satisfactory. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.
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WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

The childminder was registered in 1989. She lives with her two children aged eighteen and thirteen years. They live in North Ruislip in the London Borough of Hillingdon. The whole of the ground floor is used for childminding, along with the master bedroom on the first floor. There is a fully enclosed garden available for outside play.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of five children under eight years at any one time. She is not registered to provide overnight care. She is currently caring for five children on a part time and full time basis.

The family have a cat.

The childminder is a member of the National Childminding Association.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children enjoy a selection of activities which contribute to their good health. There are regular outdoor activities such as outings to the park, walks and visits to indoor physical play facilities to develop their physical skills.

The children are happy in the warm and clean environment. The childminder has appropriate hygiene procedures in place that enable children to be cared for in an environment that reduces the risk of infection.

Children benefit from a healthy diet. Children are offered regular drinks throughout the day. Children enjoy varied and nutritious meals and snacks that are provided by the childminder in agreement with parents. These take into account special dietary requirements to ensure children remain healthy.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

The home is comfortably furnished and equipped enabling children to make satisfactory use of space that is suitably organised with the child in mind.

Children have access to a good selection of resources. The childminder monitors and supervises children's choice of toys to ensure they are safe, appropriate and suitable for their ages. The childminder safeguards children's welfare and has the required procedures and documents in place. She has a satisfactory knowledge of child protection and the methods for reporting any concerns. However, the childminder has allowed her first aid certificate to expire.

Children are able to move around the home safely, freely and independently. The childminder has identified and minimised risks for children in the home and garden. Children are kept safe when out as the childminder has in place appropriate procedures.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children are engaged during their time within the setting, they play happily and are beginning to learn to share and take turns. Children play with a wide range of good quality resources, the children particularly enjoyed playing with the kitchen unit and utensils. Children have access to resources that offer sufficient challenges, are

stimulating and interesting in order to extend their learning and development.

The children are provided with sufficient opportunities to develop their physical skills as they have regular outings to mother and toddler groups, visit the park, farm and indoor activity centres.

Children are comfortable at the childminder's home. They confidently settle in the environment provided by the childminder, for example the older child sought out the childminder for praise and encouragement which she freely offered.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

The children are valued and respected as individuals. The childminder meets the needs of the children by seeking information from parents about the child's likes and dislikes and through getting to know the child.

Children's behaviour is managed appropriately and according to their ages. Children are well behaved and are beginning to learn right from wrong. They are encouraged to share, take turns and to have regard for one another. The childminder has an understanding of the needs of the children, whilst ensuring parent's views are sought.

Children are provided with a meaningful range of resources to promote a positive view of the wider world whilst increasing their awareness of diversity and understanding of others.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

The children feel at home and at ease in the environment provided by the childminder. This means that children are confident, comfortable and settled enough to initiate their own play and learning. The setting is meeting the needs of all the children for whom it provides care.

Children are comfortable and settled in the well organised environment. The childminder has gained qualifications in Introduction to Childminding Practice and Developing Childminding Practice. The childminder effectively uses the knowledge and understanding gained from training to promote the welfare, care and learning of children. Her procedures are regularly shared with parents to keep them well informed about their child. This contributes to the continuity in the children's care.

Improvements since the last inspection

At the last inspection the childminder was required to seek consent from parents to take photos of the children. This has now been achieved resulting in parents being confident in the care provided for their children.

Complaints since the last inspection

There are no complaints to report.

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WHAT MUST BE DONE TO SECURE FUTURE IMPROVEMENT?

The quality and standards of the care

To improve the quality and standards of care further the registered person should take account of the following recommendation(s):

- Complete a first aid course which includes training in first aid for infants and young children.
- Review and update the accident and medication records.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the leaflet *Building better childcare: Compliments and concerns about inspectors' judgements* which is available from Ofsted's website: www.ofsted.gov.uk